Theft of books in National Museum

†1755. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that many important books are missing from Publication Division of the National Museum;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps Government propose to take to prevent such thefts from such an important National Museum; and

(c) the name of the agency which has been asked to conduct an inquiry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (c) There had been only one incident of theft of fifty copies of catalogue of Raja Ravi Verma Exhibition in the year 1993. A Departmental Inquiry was conducted against the concerned employee of the Museum and the price of fifty copies of catalogue was recovered from him as well as he was penalised. In order to prevent such mishap in future a comprehensive storage system has been introduced and Stock of Publication have been computerised.

Setting up of Casinos in HP

1756. SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some instructions have been issued to States and Territories to set up Casinos;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Casinos have been set up at Kullu and Manali in Himachal Pradesh, are in terms of existing instructions; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor togetherwith the action to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No Casinos have been set up at Kullu and Manali in Himachal Pradesh.

(d) Does not arise.

Expenditure on old monuments in Sibsagar District of Assam

1757. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any expenditure to bring Sibsagar District of Assam, which has some old monuments, under the tourist map of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action is being taken for development of Majuli?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Development and promotion of tourist centres/places is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations themselves. However, Central Department of Tourism provides funds on the basis of projects prioritised in consultation with them.

For the year 2001-2002, a project for development of tourist facility